

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO OAU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
EURCOM PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 078738

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: ZAIRE SITREP

1. FOLLOWING IS FOR BACKGROUND AND DISCREET USE IN DIS-
CUSSIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

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2. THERE WAS NOT MUCH CHANGE IN THE TACTICAL SITUATION
ALTHOUGH ZAIRIAN MILITARY SOURCES REPORTED CONTACT
(SPORADIC SHOOTING) WITH HOSTILE FORCES ABOUT FIVE MILES
WEST OF THE KAYEMBE RAIL STATION (APPROXIMATELY 50 MILES
WEST OF KOLWEZI).

3. MOROCCAN TROOPS. PRESS REPORTS FROM KINSHASA STATE THAT MOROCCO IS SENDING TROOPS TO HELP ZAIRE REPEL THE SHABA INVADERS. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO GET CONFIRMATION OF THESE REPORTS.

4. FRENCH AND BELGIAN ASSISTANCE. A FRENCH ADVISORY TEAM WILL JOIN GENERAL SINGA'S SHABA HEADQUARTERS ON APRIL 7. IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS FRENCH PERSONNEL ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN TRAINING ZAIRIAN TROOPS IN KINSHASA. BELGIAN LOGISTICAL ADVISORY TEAMS HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED TO KINSHASA AND BAS ZAIRE.

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5. SITUATION IN THE CAPTURED AREAS. THERE ARE INDICATIONS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES THAT LIFE IN THE HOSTILE-HELD AREA HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL. INFORMATION FROM BRITISH SOURCES REVEALS THAT KASAJI WAS CALM AND APPARENTLY VERY LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM WHEN THE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED THE TOWN. CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES (NOT AMERICANS) IN KOLWEZI CLAIM TO HAVE RECEIVED FROM THEIR COLLEAGUES IN KAPANGA A LETTER WHICH STATED THAT THE TOWN WAS QUIET, THAT PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO GO ABOUT AS THEY PLEASED, AND THAT VERY FEW SOLDIERS WERE IN THE TOWN AT ANY GIVEN TIME. BELGIAN MILITARY SOURCES HAVE RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT FAMILIES OF THE EX-KATANGAN GENDARMES HAVE MOVED ACROSS THE BORDER FROM ANGOLA INTO THE OCCUPIED AREA.

6. NIGERIAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORT. THE ANGOLAN MINISTERIAL DELEGATION EXPECTED IN LAGOS APRIL 5 FINALLY ARRIVED THIS
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MORNING. THE DELEGATION WILL DISCUSS, INTER ALIA, THE INVASION OF SHABA WITH NIGERIAN OFFICIALS DURING ITS FIVE-DAY STAY.

7. MARC LEADERSHIP MAY VISIT LUANDA. MOVEMENT FOR THE RESURRECTION OF THE CONGO (MARC) LEADER KANYONGA TOLD EMBASSY BRUSSELS THAT MARC LEADERSHIP WOULD PROBABLY ACCEPT ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO'S INVITATION TO VISIT LUANDA IN MAY, KENYONGA ALSO SAID THAT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF THE OPPOSITION COORDINATING THEIR EFFORTS IN EITHER PARIS OR GENEVA.
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